

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 TRSE-00 L-03 INR-07 CIAE-00 /026 W
----- 086295

R 061655Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
TO DOUGALS AIRCRAFT CO
3855 N. LAKEWOOD BLVD
LONG BEACH, CALIF 90846 (213) 593-5511
ATTN J. D. DONAHUE FROM PORTER
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2222
USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS MONROVIA 7223

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, BEXP, LI
SUBJ: POSSIBLE ACQUISITION DC-9 FOR PRESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL USE

REF: CMML CABLE FROM DOUGLASAIR DONAHUE TO COMMATT PORTER
9-23-76

1. NEITHER GOVERNMENT NOR OTHER SOURCES WE CONTACTED ABLE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON BEARING STRENGTHS OR COMPOSITION SURFACE MATERIALS OF DOMESTIC AIRPORTS LIBERIA OTHER THAN SPRIGGS-PAYNE AND ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL. WE HAVE PIECED TOGETHER SOME SKETCHY INFORMATION WHICH WE HOPE WILL BE OF USE TO YOU.

2. BOTH ROBERTS AND SPRIGGS-PAYEN HARD SURFACE AND CAN ACCOMODATE DC-9. ROBERTS LISTED AT ELEVEN THOUSAND FEET (11,000 FT) WITH RUNWAY STRENGTH LISTED SINGLE WHEEL LOADING 57,000 LBS. SPRIGGS-PAYNE LISTED AT SIX THOUSAND FEET WITH SWL 33,000 LBS., NO PROBLEM.

3. ALL OTHER AIRPORT LATERITE SURFACE, AND WE CONSIDER MARGINAL FOR OPERATION JET AIRCRAFT. GREENVILLE (SINCE) LISTED AT FORTY- FOUR HUNDRED FEET. (FYI: BOEING DEMONSTRATED 737 IN AND OUT THIS FIELD EARLIER THIS YEAR.) ONLY OTHERS WHICH APPEAR TO BE IN BALL PARK ARE NIMBA LISTED AT FIFTY-FIVE HUNDRED FEET (TOUGH APPROACH) AND WOLOGISI WHICH SOMEWHERE UNCLASSIFIED

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BETWEEN FOUR THOUSAND AND FIVE THOUSAND (NO ONE SURE).

4. NEXT LIKELY ARE CAPE PALMAS (HARPER) LISTED AT THIRTY-TWO HUNDRED FEET AND TCHIEN LISTED AT THREE THOUSAND FEET.

5. WHILE LATERITE MAKES RELATIVELY SMOOTH, HARD RUNWAY, CONDITIONS VARY ON WEATHER AND MAINTENANCE. SHOULD ALSO EXPECT SOME LOOSE GRAVEL, PEA-SIZE AND LARGER.

6. IF YOU NEED MORE INFO, PLEASE CONTACT EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH COMMERCE OR STATE DEPARTMENTS.

7. BUCK BACK IN LIBERIA AND ATTEMPTED CONTACT YOU WHILE IN US. UNABLE GET THROUGH.

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